

The Middletown Transcript.

VOL. XXVII.—NO. 12.

MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE, SATURDAY, MARCH 24 1894.

PRICE, 3 CENTS

WILMINGTON CONFERENCE

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
OPENS TUESDAY MORNING

AT SALISBURY, MARYLAND

Bishop Vincent Taken Sick at Wilmington and Unable to Attend the Session—Bishop Fitzgerald Telegraphed for But Does Not Arrive. Rev. N. M. Brown Elected Chairman.

HE 26th annual session of the Wilmington Conference began at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning with a communion service conducted by Presiding Elder Corbin.

Organization was effected at 10 o'clock. Bishop Fitzgerald not having arrived, the Rev. N. M. Brown, of Middletown, was elected chairman.

One hundred and thirty-three preachers answered the roll call, and officers as follows were elected:

Assistant treasurers, the Revs. F. C. MacSorley, W. J. DuHadway, J. M. Dindale, Theodore J. Benclump and E. C. Atkins, A. G. Cox, the Rev. R. K. Stephenson, the Rev. R. I. Watkins and H. S. Goldy; Con. postmaster, the Rev. George W. Bonds; Conference board of stewards, the Revs. J. Bryan, C. F. Sheppard, P. H. Rawlings and R. K. Stephenson.

Secretary—The Rev. A. S. Mowbray. Assistant Secretaries—The Revs. W. A. W. and Z. H. Webster.

Journalist—The Rev. John D. Riggs. Statistical Secretary—The Rev. W. R. Mowbray.

Assistant Statistical Secretaries—The Revs. W. W. Sharp, W. O. Hurst, G. P. Jones, T. B. Cooper, Brewington, C. I. Stengle and Van E. Northrup.

Treasurer—The Rev. C. A. Gries. The Rev. T. E. Martindale, D. D., Alfred Smith and P. H. Rawlings were appointed a committee to send a telegram of sympathy to Bishop Vincent.

Standing committees were appointed and rules of order adopted.

The presiding elders were appointed a committee on missions and general conference expenses.

The Rev. Homer Eaton, D. D., spoke in behalf of the Methodist Episcopal Book Concern in New York and stated that the dividends which will be received from it by this conference will exceed \$1,000.

Several announcements were introduced. The Rev. C. A. Hill announced the receipt of a telegram from Bishop Vincent inquiring about Bishop Fitzgerald.

Mr. Hill stated that he had replied to Bishop Vincent's inquiry and informed him that conference had been opened by "Bishop" Browne.

Announcements were made, minor business transacted and at 11:30 o'clock conference adjourned until Wednesday morning.

Asbury Church, where conference meets, is a combination of uniqueness and beauty. Its style of architecture is Queen Anne. It is constructed of Port Deposit granite. Red mortar between the large blocks of gray stone relieves the somberness of the exterior. The interior is elegant. Its beauty is more striking at night when the edifice is brilliantly illuminated. All the rooms are on one floor and when the partitions are not down forms one large auditorium.

The temperance anniversary Wednesday evening was largely attended. Presiding Elder Smith presided and the Revs. G. W. Townsend and S. M. Morgan delivered addresses.

THURSDAY'S SESSION. The second session of the Wilmington M. E. Conference opened in Asbury M. E. Church to-day with President Browne still in the chair. Bishop Fitzgerald had not been heard from, but Bishop Vincent had sent word that he would be present in the afternoon.

Presiding Elder Barrett read his annual report, in which he said that good work had been done. He alluded to the different ministers who had been bereaved in various ways. Revivals have been held all over the district and as a result more than 700 conversions have been made. Two camp meetings—Woodward Relief Association and Summit—were held.

Mr. Barrett alluded to the little factories in Wilmington and said that it was no wonder that every church had felt the hard times and most of them were below the usual mark in collections. Union, Madeley and Cookman reached the mark of last year. Epworth and Lingswood went beyond. The junior league at the Mark. Mr. Barrett then took up the different churches and how they had been affected by the hard times. The failure to keep up the apportionment was not due to lack of work, but lack of money. Mr. Barrett alluded to the work of the Methodist Relief Association which has spent \$1000 and relieved 300 families.

Epworth, Silverbrook and Harrison Street churches were dedicated during the year. Joseph Pyle's gifts to Silverbrook were spoken of. Zion Church, Union, Scott, Hockessin, Newport, Madeley, Wilmington, paid debts on their church properties.

Cookman M. E. Church, Wilmington, has broken ground for a new church. In the year \$30,000 has been paid for churches and on church indebtedness.

The Epworth League has done a good work. The junior league is doing well. The ministers in the district are all right. On the liquor question, in the Delaware part of the district the ministers are hampered by an antiquated State constitution. A home for deafness is now being arranged for. He thanked all who had

helped him during the year.

EXTENSION SOCIETY. Dr. J. W. Spencer of New York, in the interests of the Church Extension Society, was introduced and spoke briefly.

Dr. W. V. Kelly, the editor of the Methodist Review, spoke briefly in the interest of that publication.

The Rev. J. W. Easley was substituted for the Rev. A. Stangle on the Ministerial Qualification Committee, and the Rev. J. B. Quigg was added to that committee.

EASTON DISTRICT. The Rev. Alfred Smith, Presiding Elder of the Easton district made his annual report. There have been two new churches built one on Cecilton circuit and the other at Betterton. There have been forty workers on the Peninsula and death has not entered the home of a single worker. One of the new churches cost \$6000 and another \$1500. The debt on the church at Cordova has been paid and improvements made at Odessa, Bethel and several other places and old debts reduced on the parsonage at Ingleside, Odessa and other places. At Townsend the debt on the parsonage has been paid.

From all information the salaries of pastors will fall behind, but while it is due largely to hard times it is also due to lack of business tact. The benevolences in some places have suffered, but this is not the fault of the ministers. Centerville, Oxford, Cheswood, Galena, Middletown, Talbot, Hillside, Smyrna circuit, have surpassed their appointment in collections for the benevolences. A number of places have increased. The ministers have all done their work nobly.

About 1200 persons have been converted and 1000 have joined the church. The Epworth league are doing excellent work. The state convention gave a general impetus to the work. The Woman's Foreign and Home Missionary societies have done great work.

The elder had urged the appointment in the churches of temperance leagues, but not a single one was organized. People seem to think the movement is behind the times.

The presiding elders of Salisbury and Dover districts were not ready to report when their names were called and they will report at same time to-morrow. The characters of the ministers on their districts were called and their characters passed.

The Rev. John Y. Dubbins, D. D., pastor of Grace M. E. Church, asked to be excused from attending conference, and the request was granted.

MEMORIAL SERVICES. The Rev. W. E. England read a paper on the life of George Barton at the opening of the memorial service. The Rev. J. Quigg, A. G. Phoebe, B. F. Price and Harry Somers spoke briefly of the deceased.

This was the only death during the year. Mr. Barton died during the past conference year. He was blind for more than forty years, but his interest in the Gospel never ceased, and until his health failed he always preached regularly.

George A. Phoebe, James Egate, Henry Sanderson, James A. Brindle, James Hubbard, C. J. Smith, W. B. Redman, William B. Walton were confirmed on the supernumerary list.

The committees had their usual calls interested and the conference adjourned at noon.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY. This afternoon the anniversary of the Conference Historical Society was held. The Rev. B. F. Price, the veteran minister of the Conference, presided, and the Rev. W. L. S. Murray, the Rev. Charles A. Hill and the Rev. B. F. Price read papers on the work of the society and matters of interest to the society.

The usual church extension society anniversary was held this evening. The church was filled, and the Rev. J. B. Quigg of Wilmington presided. The Rev. W. A. Spencer, D. D. of New York, made an interesting address on the needs of the church Extension Society and how the Methodist Church was extending its work all over the United States.

Bishop Vincent arrived from Wilmington this afternoon and will preside at the conference tomorrow morning. The work will then be pushed rapidly forward and adjournment will probably be made on Monday evening or Tuesday morning.

The graduates of Dickinson College held a banquet this evening in the Hotel Orient. It was well attended and an enjoyable time was spent by those present.

REV. J. D. C. HANNA FOR PRESIDING ELDER. There is a plan on foot to make the Rev. J. D. C. Hanna presiding elder of Eastern district and to send Presiding Elder Smith of that district to Asbury in Wilmington.

Bishop Fitzgerald will arrive here on Saturday.

FRIDAY'S SESSION. The members of Wilmington M. E. Conference were addressed at 8:15 o'clock this morning on the order of public worship to be observed. The address followed by devotional exercises conducted by Bishop Vincent and lasting half an hour.

Conference convened at 9 o'clock, Bishop Vincent presiding. In a brief address the bishop explained his detention in reaching the conference seat.

The Rev. J. B. Quigg, W. L. S. Murray and T. E. Terry were appointed a committee to nominate four ministerial representatives for the General Conference Academy.

The consideration of the three propositions sent down by the General Conference was made the special order for 10 o'clock to-morrow morning. These propositions propose to change the constitution so as to permit lay and ministerial representation in the General Conference instead of confining the lay representation to two delegates from each annual conference; to change the basis of ministerial representation from salary to the number of members; and to send the General Conference representative for every 15 members of an annual conference, not less than one for every 45, not more than one for every 90, this being intended to reduce the size of the General Conference, that body having increased in size to be unwieldy; to change the meeting time of the General Conference from the first day of May to the first Wednesday of May.

Dr. Eaton of the Methodist Book Concern, Dr. Hurlburt of the Sunday-school Union and Tract Society, Prof. Rodgers of Drew Theological Seminary, Dr. Ross of Dickinson College, Dr. Payne of the Church Board of Education, and Dr. Moffett of the American Bible Society, were heard in behalf of these institutions.

To the committee on ministerial qualifications was referred the request of the Rev. A. T. Scott that his relation be changed from supernumerary to effective, and that

he be appointed editor of the Christian Companion.

The Rev. R. C. Jones' relation was changed from supernumerary to effective and he will be transferred to the Indiana Conference.

The Rev. J. D. Riggs was continued in the effective supernumerary relation, and the Revs. W. F. Talbot, J. B. Merritt, T. E. Bell, W. E. England, J. W. Poole, J. W. Hamersley, W. L. P. Bowen and G. M. Wilcox were continued in the supernumerary relations.

The relation of the Rev. J. H. Cladwell, D. D., was changed from supernumerary to supernumerary, and the relation of the Rev. T. H. Haynes was changed from effective to supernumerary.

The death of the wife of the Rev. W. G. Koons was announced. The Rev. R. I. Watkins, T. E. Martindale, and W. L. S. Murray and Presiding Elder Barrett were appointed a committee to express to Mr. Koons the sympathy of the conference.

The Revs. N. M. Brown and T. E. Martindale were added to committee on ministerial qualifications.

Consideration of the report of the committee on conference endowment fund made the special order for 10 o'clock Monday morning.

Bishop Vincent arrived yesterday and spent most of the afternoon with his cabinet.

There were many visitors in town and the hotels did a big business.

The Conference Historical Society had its anniversary yesterday afternoon. The Rev. B. F. Price presided and the Revs. W. L. S. Murray, D. D., and C. A. Hill and the presiding officer read papers.

A DIFFICULT TASK AHEAD. Bishop Vincent is still in poor health. It is stated on excellent authority that he and the presiding elders have a difficult task in arranging the pastoral appointments. In localities where few changes are expected there will be many changes and in localities where many changes are expected there will be few changes. Bishop Fitzgerald will come here to-day or to-morrow for the purpose of relieving Bishop Vincent and will probably stay until the final adjournment.

PERSONALITIES

Little Lines About Men and Women and What They Are Doing.

—Miss Isabel Taylor is sojourning at Atlantic City.

—Rev. T. E. Martindale was in town on Tuesday morning.

—Rev. and Mrs. N. M. Brown left on Tuesday for Conference.

—Mr. J. Edward Draper spent Sunday in Smyrna, "light-seeing."

—A. G. Cox, left on Tuesday for Salisbury, Md., to attend Conference.

—Miss Sarah Brady spent several days with Newark friends last week.

—S. S. Wilson, of Philadelphia, spent Sunday with his parents in town.

—Misses Gochran, Hukill and Chester were in Philadelphia on Tuesday.

—Miss Sara Chester, of Shalokokin, Pa., is the guest of Miss Corinne Coker.

—Hugh C. Browne has been on a business trip in West Virginia for the past week.

—Messrs. Phillips, Burrows and Boyer, of Smyrna, spent Sunday with "friends" in town.

—Mr. C. M. Stanger attended the funeral of his brother, John Stanger, in Salem, N. J., this week.

—Miss Mollie White, of Wilmington is the guest of Mrs. Fannie Vasey, on South Broad Street.

—Victor Messick, George Echenhofer, James Burrows, Philip Massey and Walter Webb, "took in" Smyrna on Sunday.

—Mr. R. B. Talley, representing Albert L. West, wholesale paper and tag dealer, Philadelphia, was in town Friday, and paid our office a pleasant call.

—S. R. Estes, of the firm of L. Ham-burger & Son, of Wilmington, has been in town this week. Mr. Estes is a good salesman, and is well and favorably known in this town and vicinity.

BRIEFS

—For Rent—Our Nos. 3 and 4 Stores possession given March 25th, at REYNOLDS & CO.'S.

For latest styles and best assortment of Dress Goods at lowest prices. Call at PENNINGTON'S CORNER.

—STILL ON DECK—George W. Jackson, for Coroner of New Castle County.

—I will sell at auction on Saturday morning, March 31st, several pieces of household furniture. See advertisement in next issue.

A large stock of Millinery including all the latest Shapes and Styles of Ladies' Hats, Trimmed and Untrimmed at PENNINGTON'S CORNER.

Prof. and Mrs. W. B. Tharp entertained a number of their friends at their home last evening. The evening was pleasantly spent in games and conversation, and at a late hour all departed for their respective homes.

—MILLINERY—A revelation of "the correct" in stylish head wear. We have the newest of the new, and you will be up to date in the papers accounts of practice games being played by both professionals and amateurs for the purpose of limbering up the regular season. Appropos of this, we have a good idea to form a league of clubs in the vicinity of Dover, the players thereof being required to reside in or near the towns of which they are members? This latter proviso would, it is believed, prevent the hiring of semi-professional players, and create and maintain an interest in the game. It would also be a good idea to form a league of clubs in the vicinity of Dover, the players thereof being required to reside in or near the towns of which they are members? This latter proviso would, it is believed, prevent the hiring of semi-professional players, and create and maintain an interest in the game. 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